United Nations S/2002/1032

Security Council

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16 September 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 13 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I should like to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 11 September 2002 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, concerning violations of the demilitarized zone which have been committed by United States and British warplanes, together with a table showing those violations for the period from 27 July to 16 August 2002.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

02-59059 (E) 170902 180902

Annex to the letter dated 13 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to our letter of 5 August 2002 (S/2002/873, annex), I should like to inform you that during the period from 27 July to 16 August 2002, United States and British warplanes flying from bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and via the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) committed 734 hostile violations of our international boundaries. As shown in the table appended to this letter, the relevant Iraqi authorities have determined that the violations committed were as follows:

1. Armed aerial activity by the United States and the United Kingdom, involving violations of our international boundaries from bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and via the demilitarized zone, comprised 734 armed sorties in the Dhi Qar, Muthanna, Basrah, Maysan, Qadisiyah and Najaf governorates.

2. Our technical systems identified the aircraft violating Iraq's airspace on a daily basis as American F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and F-18s and British Tornadoes.

3. An AWACS aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace provided support to all of the United States and British aircraft that carried out hostile, armed sorties, violating Iraq's airspace by way of the demilitarized zone.

4. From 27 July to 16 August 2002, a total of two remotely piloted aircraft violated Iraq's airspace from United States and British bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and via the demilitarized zone.

All the violations in question were committed via the demilitarized zone in which UNIKOM is stationed. One of the primary responsibilities of UNIKOM is to monitor such hostile military operations, report them and endeavour to halt them immediately.

One of the essential tasks of UNIKOM is to record such violations accurately, determining the type and nationality of the aircraft. We therefore urge the United Nations Secretariat to provide UNIKOM with adequate systems to make it possible to monitor all violations and report them to the Security Council so that it may take the necessary measures to put an immediate stop to these infringements. Moreover, even if UNIKOM did not have equipment with which to ascertain the type and nationality of such aircraft, the fact that they come from Kuwait confirms that they are American and British. This is referred to in your semi-annual report to the Security Council covering the period from 28 March to 24 September 2001 (S/2001/913). Indeed, paragraph 6 of that report states that the inability of UNIKOM to identify the States responsible for conducting those sorties should not be taken to mean that it condones them. You also state in the report that the United States and the United Kingdom have acknowledged that they are continuing to enforce a no-flight zone in southern Iraq.

I therefore request you once more to instruct UNIKOM to perform its duties in full, to report these violations to the Security Council through you immediately upon their occurrence and to determine the number and type of the American and British

warplanes that violate the demilitarized zone, contravening the Security Council resolutions whereby that zone was created and engaging in hostilities against Iraq, given that such acts constitute State terrorism and flagrant aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territory, as well as against United Nations peace-keeping operations. I further request you to remind the Security Council of its responsibility to halt this aggression and hold the aggressors fully accountable for it under international law and in accordance with the Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Hostile aerial activity violating Iraq's international boundaries from Kuwait and via the demilitarized zone, 27 July to 16 August 2002

Date	*From*	*Time*	*Type of aircraft*	*Armed sorties*	*Altitude (metres)*	*Speed (km h)*	*Areas overflown*
27 July to 16 August	Kuwait	0620-1550	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18	734 and 2 drones	5,110-8,500	240-780	Basrah, Busayyah, Salman, Artawi, Lasaf, Ashbajah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Qal'at Salih, Amarah, Samawah, Nu'maniyah, Najaf, Hayy, Kut, Afak, Diwaniyah, Rumaythah, Nukhayb

United Nations A/57/408–S/2002/1033

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General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Item 162 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 15 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter from Eduard Shevardnadze, President of Georgia, on the threat of use of force by the Russian Federation against Georgia.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 162 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/57/150.

02-59196 (E) 180902

Annex to the identical letters dated 15 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The current circumstances are forcing the Government of Georgia to appeal to you with the request to duly respond to the statement of the President of the Russian Federation made on 11 September 2002 in which President Putin, while relying exclusively on the Russian version of the situation in the Pankisi Gorge in eastern Georgia, resorted to an undisguised threat of force towards a neighbouring State — a member of the United Nations.

One cannot describe otherwise the accusations put forward with respect to the situation in the Pankisi Gorge. In addition, public opinion is actively being formed whereby problems existing in the Pankisi Gorge are presented as ones that beget and fuel troubles in Chechnya and elsewhere in southern Russia. It is hard to imagine a clearer example of confusing the cause and the effect. In reality, problems in the Pankisi Gorge have arisen specifically as a result of the military operation conducted in Chechnya, during which Russian armed forces could not or would not keep military actions within the boundaries of Russia and allowed the "spreading" of the conflict onto the territory of a well-disposed, friendly, sovereign neighbouring nation.

Georgia has repeatedly voiced public warnings regarding the inadmissibility and danger of a spillover of the conflict onto its territory; relevant statements were made in all major international organizations. Regrettably, however, our appeals never evoked a due response from the Russian side. Moreover, according to the available materials, armed individuals were, in fact, allowed to enter the territory of Georgia through the official Russian border checkpoints.

At the same time, Russia's mass media and public officials, the leadership of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation in particular, started to heat up the situation by asserting that Georgia was the main supplier of armaments to the conflict zone. In order to prove the absurdity of such statements, which must be obvious to anyone who has at least once observed the terrain of this mountainous region, Georgia has demanded and achieved the establishment of international control on the Chechen and Ingush segments of the Georgian-Russian State border. The activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) monitoring mission, which, incidentally, includes several Russian observers as well, have clearly demonstrated that there has been no threat to Russia emanating from Georgia. On the other hand, during the same period of time the OSCE observers have recorded numerous violations of Georgia's sovereignty by Russian bombers and military helicopters as they attacked adjacent villages, which caused wounds and loss of life among innocent civilians.

Despite the indisputable proof of the acts of aggression that Georgia and the OSCE observers have at their disposal, Moscow denies the above-mentioned bombings and refuses to conduct a joint investigation.

All of the above gives one sufficient ground to think that the issue of the Pankisi Gorge is artificially sustained in order to pressure Georgia, to tarnish its international reputation, to provoke destabilization and to disrupt the

implementation of the major economic projects of the Europe-Asia transport corridor and the transit of hydrocarbons from the Caspian region through Georgia.

The accusation of the violation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) dated 28 September 2001 brought against Georgia is based on a somewhat arbitrary interpretation of the document and appears to be an attempt to discredit an active member of the international anti-terrorist coalition, whose positive contribution to the struggle against terrorism has been noted on many occasions by the leading nations of the aforementioned coalition, which also happen to be members of the United Nations Security Council.

Here one also ought to point out the unaptness of the reference to article 51 of the United Nations Charter, which allows the attacked State to render armed resistance in order to defend its territorial integrity and sovereignty. The Russian Federation has not been subjected to armed aggression by Georgia, while those armed individuals penetrating the territory of Georgia from Russia and then moving back are mostly citizens of the Russian Federation, who have been methodically "squeezed" out onto the Georgian territory.

Incidentally, it is worth recalling that some of those who fought in Chechnya had previously received combat experience in 1992-1993, in the war against Georgia. At the time, many organized groups of the Chechen fighters led by Basaev, who is currently regarded by Russia as the chief terrorist, were dispatched to Georgia with the assistance of the Russian special services. Any protest on the part of the Georgian Government was invariably met with a cynical remark that the Russian authorities did not bear any responsibility for the penetration of "volunteers" from the territory of Russia and that Georgia must unilaterally provide security on its borders. Also, one can hardly keep from remembering that it was the Russian military aircraft that kept bombing Sukhumi and other peaceful communities.

Today, the opposite is asserted regarding the Pankisi Gorge. Repeated attempts are being made to blame Georgia for its inability to provide security for Russia on the Chechen segment of the Georgian-Russian State border, where the current situation has been deliberately created by the Russian Federation itself.

For our part, we have been trying to resolve the conflict by peaceful means. In my letter to the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Putin, I have once more appealed to the leadership of Russia and the President himself to find a common tongue, to rise above the existing problems and to develop good-neighbourly relations between our peoples. We have also indicated our readiness to receive an OSCE group of experts, including representatives of the Russian Federation, who will be provided with opportunities to visit any site at any time and will be expected to write a report on the actual situation on the ground. Yet, I am convinced that only with the active support of the world community of nations will we manage to maintain territorial integrity and provide security for the Georgian people.

We are appealing to you with the hope that the international community will not allow the violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of a Member State of the United Nations to take place and will guard Georgia from acts of aggression by one of the mighty military-political powers of the world.

(*Signed*) Eduard **Shevardnadze**

United Nations S/2002/1034

Security Council

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16 September 2002

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Letter dated 16 September 2002 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

You will recall that I have, on several occasions, appealed to the Government of the Republic of Iraq to allow the return of United Nations inspectors to Iraq in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. My discussions with Iraq and my appeals have been based on the commitment of the Security Council and all States Members of the United Nations to all the purposes and principles laid out in the Charter of the United Nations and guided by the relevant Security Council resolutions.

I would like to inform you that the Foreign Minister of Iraq, Naji Sabri, has written to me indicating that the Government of the Republic of Iraq has decided to allow the return of United Nations weapons inspectors to Iraq without conditions. The Foreign Minister has also indicated that his Government is ready to discuss the practical arrangements necessary for the immediate resumption of inspections. As I had the honour to mention to the General Assembly a few days ago, this decision by the Government of the Republic of Iraq is the indispensable first step towards an assurance that Iraq no longer possesses weapons of mass destruction and, equally important, towards a comprehensive solution that includes the suspension and eventual ending of the sanctions that are causing such hardship for the Iraqi people and the timely implementation of other provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

I attach a copy of the Foreign Minister's letter (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

02-59182 (E) 160902

Annex

Letter dated 16 September 2002 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the series of discussions held between you and the Government of the Republic of Iraq on the implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions on the question of Iraq, which took place in New York on 7 March and 2 May and in Vienna on 4 July 2002, as well as the talks which were held in your office in New York on 14 and 15 September 2002, with the participation of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States.

I am pleased to inform you of the decision of the Government of the Republic of Iraq to allow the return of the United Nations weapons inspectors to Iraq without conditions.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq has responded, by this decision, to your appeal, to the appeal of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, as well as to the appeals of Arab, Islamic and other friendly countries.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq has based its decision concerning the return of inspectors on its desire to complete the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions and to remove any doubts that Iraq still possesses weapons of mass destruction. This decision is also based on your statement to the General Assembly on 12 September 2002 that the decision by the Government of the Republic of Iraq is the indispensable first step towards an assurance that Iraq no longer possesses weapons of mass destruction and, equally important, towards a comprehensive solution that includes the lifting of the sanctions imposed on Iraq and the timely implementation of other provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 687 (1991). To this end, the Government of the Republic of Iraq is ready to discuss the practical arrangements necessary for the immediate resumption of inspections.

In this context, the Government of the Republic of Iraq reiterates the importance of the commitment of all States Members of the Security Council and the United Nations to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq, as stipulated in the relevant Security Council resolutions and in Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Naji **Sabri**
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Iraq

United Nations A/57/409–S/2002/1035

General Assembly
Security Council

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16 September 2002

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General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Item 162 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 13 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia of 12 September 2002 on the threat of use of force by the Russian Federation against Georgia.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 162 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/57/150.

02-59272 (E) 180902

Annex to the letter dated 13 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia

Georgia is extremely alarmed by the statement of the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Vladimir Putin, made during the Sochi meeting on 11 September 2002. The statement contains an overt threat to use military force against a neighbouring sovereign State.

One can only regret that these words were voiced on 11 September, the day when the attention of the world community was focused on the last year's barbaric terrorist attack and global efforts to fight this menace.

It is extremely surprising that such accusations were made, despite the fact that the Russian side had been informed in detail through the channels established between the special services of both States regarding all the arrangements planned and conducted by the Georgian military and law-enforcement agencies to improve the criminal situation in the Pankisi Gorge and on the Chechen segment of the Georgian-Russian State border.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia considers that the accusations put forward in the statement are groundless and do not reflect the objective reality. In order to demonstrate real developments on this matter, Georgia expresses its readiness to receive, in the shortest period of time, the group of international experts in the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), including representatives of the Russian Federation, for the purpose of visiting and familiarizing themselves with the actual situation in the Pankisi Gorge and on the Chechen segment of the Georgian-Russian State border.

The Georgian side is being called upon to control its territory at the very moment when the measures against criminal elements and fighters are entering a decisive phase.

The Georgian side has been repeatedly stressing that it is open to close cooperation in the struggle against terrorism as envisaged by the global anti-terrorism coalition, including the Russian Federation, whose territorial integrity and right to protect its own citizens from the malice of terrorism has always been respected by Georgia.

However, the assignments given out to the Russian law-enforcement agencies by President Putin on 11 September do not in any way fall under the universally accepted international norms of inter-State relations and cannot be assessed otherwise but as a threat of aggression from the Russian Federation against a neighbouring sovereign State.

In this regard, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia considers totally unacceptable the liberal, if mildly put, interpretation of Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, which was invoked at the Sochi meeting and is aimed at the justification of such aggressive intentions.

The Georgian side is insisting that Russia refrain from taking thoughtless steps, which can only entail new destruction and casualties, destabilize the situation in the entire Caucasus and irrevocably affect Georgian-Russian relations.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia is appealing to the United Nations, OSCE and all the world community to take decisive measures against such a development of events in the Caucasus region.

Tbilisi, 12 September 2002

United Nations A/57/411–S/2002/1036

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Security Council

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17 September 2002

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General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Item 162 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 17 September 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am privileged to transmit herewith for your information, as contained in the annex to the present letter, the text of the letter dated 11 September 2002 from Mr. Alyaksandr Lukashenka, President of the Republic of Belarus, addressed to H.E. Mr. George W. Bush, President of the United States of America.

I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, item 162 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aleg **Ivanou**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/57/150.

02-59406 (E) 190902 190902

Annex to the letter dated 17 September 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

President of the Republic of Belarus

Minsk, 11 September 2002

Exactly one year has passed since the unprecedented and treacherous terrorist attacks against the cities of the United States of America. On that day, the entire civilized world stood side by side with the American nation and felt its intolerable pain. Today, we still bear in our hearts the memory of the innocent people who perished in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania on that dreadful morning of 11 September 2001.

Belarus, though geographically far away from the United States, was also struck by the evil-doers: a young Belarusian girl lost her life in the ruins of the World Trade Center. Having experienced the horrors of the Second World War and the Chernobyl disaster, the people of Belarus understand all too well what the citizens of the United States of America had to go through.

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, the world was made aware of the grave reality of new challenges and threats. We also realized that the evil of international terrorism can be eradicated only through joint, concerted efforts.

The Republic of Belarus considers itself to be an integral part of the international anti-terrorist coalition. We have consistently supported decisive efforts by the United States of America and other countries, within the framework of international law, to bring to a halt and prevent terrorist activities. Our country has been actively cooperating with the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the United Nations Security Council and has been striving to make its contribution to this common cause.

Belarusian soil has never provided and will never provide shelter for terrorists. We are ready to continue our constructive cooperation with the United States of America and other countries in order ultimately to achieve victory over international terrorism. I am confident that the normalization of bilateral relations between the Republic of Belarus and the United States of America, to which there exist no objective obstacles, could bring greater benefits to both our peoples.

On behalf of the Belarusian people and on my own behalf, please convey, Mr. President, my sincere condolences to the American people, who suffered in the tragedy of 11 September 2001.

(*Signed*) Alyaksandr **Lukashenka**

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General Assembly
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Item 162 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 17 September 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am privileged to transmit herewith for your attention, as contained in the annex to the present letter, the original copy of the letter addressed to Your Excellency by H.E. Mr. Alyaksandr Lukashenka, President of the Republic of Belarus.

I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under item 162 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aleg **Ivanou**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/57/150.

02-59436 (E) 190902

Annex to the letter dated 17 September 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

President of the Republic of Belarus

Minsk, 11 September 2002

The tragic events of 11 September 2001 marked the start of efforts by the international community to find new approaches to solving the problem of terrorism.

The spread of international terrorism and its links with transnational organized crime, the illicit drugs trade and illegal arms trafficking have become a threat to the foundations of international relations as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

It is important that precisely the United Nations has taken the lead in establishing a global anti-terrorist coalition. The adoption of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee confirmed the fact that the United Nations could be at the heart of the international community's endeavour to find strategies and tactics to deal with terrorism. The international community thus acknowledged that the collective approach was the only possible and effective way to combat the evil of terrorism.

The Republic of Belarus considers itself an integral part of the international anti-terrorist coalition. It wholeheartedly supports the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and is actively cooperating with it.

The consistency of the approach adopted by the Republic of Belarus is confirmed by the fact that it is a party to nine international multilateral anti-terrorism treaties and will very soon complete the procedures for becoming a party to the remaining three.

Issues relating to counter-terrorism are kept under constant review by all agencies in the State administration of Belarus. In January 2002, the country's Act on combating terrorism entered into force. The National Bank of the Republic of Belarus has taken the decision to freeze the accounts of terrorists, terrorist organizations and persons associated with them.

With its fully effective export-control system and its membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, Belarus takes an active part in preventing the proliferation and use by terrorists of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, conventional weapons and weapon-production technologies.

We welcome your personal efforts to strengthen existing United Nations counter-terrorism structures and to develop, under its auspices, a comprehensive convention on international terrorism. In view of the exceptional importance of joint action in combating international terrorism, Belarus will continue to support in every way the Organization's efforts to confront this contemporary challenge.

(*Signed*) Aleksander **Lukashenko**

United Nations A/57/415–S/2002/1038

General Assembly
Security Council

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18 September 2002
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Items 36 and 162 of the provisional agenda*

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 17 September 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letters 813/5/2002 of 23 July 2002 and 828/5/2002 of 25 July 2002, and in response to the letter dated 5 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to you, I have the honour to make the following points, on instructions from my Government:

1. Israel is occupying the Shab'a farms area of Lebanon, and therefore the acts of legitimate resistance against the Israeli occupation are not being carried out "on the Israeli side of the Blue Line" or across the border in northern Israel, as alleged, but in occupied territory and against Israeli military positions in that territory. Accordingly, the acts of resistance to the Israeli occupation do not fall under Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) on counter-terrorism, which Lebanon is implementing, but under General Assembly resolution 46/51 of 9 December 1991 and other relevant resolutions establishing a distinction between terrorism, which we condemn, and the right of peoples to struggle against foreign occupation.

2. This occupation — supported by Israel's bellicose practices and military actions aimed at provoking and constantly threatening Lebanon, Israel's violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the land, airspace and waters of Lebanon, and Israel's contempt for the resolutions of international organizations on the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region — is what constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security, for which Israel must assume sole responsibility.

* A/57/150.

02-59560 (E) 190902 190902

3. The Israeli military aircraft referred to in the Israeli letter fly deep into Lebanese territory almost every day, as you have pointed out in your reports to the Security Council, specifically your report on UNIFIL dated 12 July 2002 (S/2002/746), which states that a pattern emerged whereby the aircraft would fly out to sea and enter Lebanese airspace north of the UNIFIL area of operation, thus avoiding direct observation and verification by UNIFIL. If Hizbollah fired at the Israeli aircraft in self-defence as part of the legitimate struggle to liberate the territory, it was only firing at Israeli military aircraft that were violating Lebanese airspace.

4. Lebanon reaffirms its legitimate right to liberate its territory occupied by Israel, and reiterates its commitment to the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in accordance with the resolutions of international organizations flouted by Israel.

5. Israel is continuing its policy of misinformation in the Middle East, taking advantage of the tragic events of 11 September in order to make the international community believe that it is fighting terrorism in the Middle East, and, in line with its policy of deception, never forgetting to request circulation of the letters addressed to you under the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", while ignoring the root cause of the problem in the region, namely the occupation of the Arab territories.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under items 36 and 162, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Houssam **Diab**
Chargé d' affaires a.i.